



March 30, 2005

### **DMVS OFFERS ADVICE FOR LIMO SAFETY**

Spring is in the air and with it comes planning for proms and graduations. The Department of Motor Vehicle Safety (DMVS) has some helpful advice for Georgia's young people and their parents who may be hiring limos for these events. Be aware of illegal limousine companies that schedule trips without the proper authority.

Under current Georgia law (O.C.G.A. §§46-7-85.3 and 46.7.85.4), all limousine companies are required to be registered and have proof of insurance on file with the DMVS. A list of licensed companies can be found at the department's website: [www.dmv.ga.gov](http://www.dmv.ga.gov).

Chauffeurs who drive for licensed carriers are required to have permits, which are only issued after successful completion of a criminal history investigation. A carrier operating illegally will not have provided DMVS with proof of insurance, and a chauffeur working for an illegal carrier will not have passed the background investigation.

Licensed limousine carriers operate under a maximum tariff and rates are negotiable. A gratuity is voluntary and not mandatory. Limousine companies are allowed a 4-hour minimum during prom season. When making your reservations, always get a written confirmation. As a reminder, contact the company a few days prior to the scheduled event to confirm the arrangements.

If consumers need more information about a limousine carrier or if you have a complaint, contact the DMVS Regulatory Compliance Unit at (770) 918-5836.